

State of Vermont

House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 315

House concurrent resolution honoring Maurice Dickey Drysdale for his bold and dynamic leadership at the *Herald of Randolph*

Offered by: Representatives French of Randolph, Ryerson of Randolph, Briglin of Thetford, Buxton of Tunbridge, Davis of Washington, Donahue of Northfield, Graham of Williamstown, Haas of Rochester, Masland of Thetford, and Zagar of Barnard

Offered by: Senators MacDonald, Campbell, McCormack, and Nitka

Whereas, the *Herald of Randolph* (the *Herald*) is the newspaper of record for 16 towns in the White River Valley, and

Whereas, a native Vermonter, after Harvard College, Dick Drysdale began as a reporter for the *Lewiston Tribune* in Idaho and then the *Springfield Union* in Massachusetts, which his maternal grandfather once edited, and

Whereas, in 1971, when only 26 years of age, Dick Drysdale returned to Vermont to purchase the *Herald* from his father, and

Whereas, Dick Drysdale continued the *Herald's* mission “to create a community; to make people aware of each other and each other’s strengths and activities and the ways they can participate in the community,” and

Whereas, as the *Herald's* editor and publisher, he expanded the scope of the paper’s coverage, added new features, and defended First Amendment principles, and

Whereas, among the highlights of his tenure were the introduction of an arts and entertainment page, a sports page, a humorous April Fools’ edition, and the digital era of computerized composition and web posting of stories, and

Whereas, when downtown Randolph sustained three major fires in the early 1990s, the *Herald's* editorial phrase “Randolph on the Rise” spurred the town to rebuild and rejuvenate its business district, and

Whereas, the Vermont Press Association awarded the *Herald* a first-place award for its Tropical Storm Irene coverage, and the paper published a book entitled *The Wrath of Irene*, and

Whereas, the New England Newspaper and Press Association inducted Dick Drysdale into its Hall of Fame, and

Whereas, in 2015, the Randolph Area Community Development Corporation presented Dick Drysdale and his wife, Marjorie, the Hutchinson Award, honoring their selfless service to the community, and

Whereas, in 2015, he sold the *Herald of Randolph* to its long-time photographer, but Dick Drysdale will continue to contribute commentary and reporting, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Maurice Dickey Drysdale for his bold and dynamic leadership at the *Herald of Randolph*, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Dick Drysdale and to the *Herald of Randolph*.